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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /099 W
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R 211550Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4258
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USIA
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASH DC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
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OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CH, GE, UR, US, VN, XF, BU, ML
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MAY 21

-- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA COMMENTS ON THE B-1, ALLEGING
THAT ITS PRODUCTION "WILL CERTAINLY NOT PROMOTE"
STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION (SEPTEL);

-- A SIGNED AND APPARENTLY AUTHORITATIVE COMMENTARY
IN PRAVDA EXPLAINS SOVIET DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS IN DETAIL,
AND IN SO DOING ACCUSES THE U.S. OF DISINTEREST IN THE MDW
PROPOSAL BECAUSE IT ALLEGEDLY WISHES TO ADD NEW WEAPONS TO
ITS ARSENAL (SEPTEL);

-- OTHER U.S. COVERAGE INCLUDES A FAIRLY DISPASSIONATE WEIGHING
OF THE CHANCES OF THE PRESENT CONTENDERS FOR THE PRESIDENCY
AND REPORTING OF THE GISCARD VISIT;

-- PRAVDA CONTINUES ITS REPORTS ON THE SED CONGRESS, BUT IS
HARD PRESSED TO SHOW MUCH SUPPORT FOR PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONAL-
ISM IN THE SPEECHES OF NON-SOVIET DELEGATES;

-- PRAVDA SAYS THAT A GROUP OF U.S. SENATORS HAS DECIDED
THAT ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES;

-- THE BULGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW;

-- PODGORNY MET MALIAN CHIEF OF STATE TRAORE, WHO MADE A
TRANSIT STOP ENROUTE HOME FROM NORTH KOREA;

-- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPRINTS EXCERPTS FROM AN ARTICLY BY GENERAL
GIAP ON THE NEED FOR VIETNAM TO STRENGTHEN ITS ARMED FORCES TO
DEFEND ALL NATIONAL TERRITORY;

-- AND PRAVDA REPLAYS A REPORT THAT SEVEN CHINESE
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PROVINCIAL MILITARY COMMANDERS HAVE BEEN MOVED, LINKING THIS
TO REPORTED PROBLEMS IN PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORTATION.

2. IN ADDITION TO A KRASNAYA ZVEZDA COMMENTARY ON THE
B-1 REPORTED SEPTEL, OTHER COVERAGE OF THE U.S. INCLUDES
REPORTS IN PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA ON THE GISCARD VISIT TO THE U.S.
THE REPORTS SAY THAT U.S.- FRENCH RELATIONS WERE DESCRIBED BY THE
TWO PRESIDENTS AS "EXCELLENT", THOUGH THE U.S. PRESS DOES NOT

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SHARE THEIR ESTIMATE. VARIOUS PAPERS, THE REPORT SAYS, POINT OUT THERE THE TALKS BROUGHT NO PALPABLE RESULTS, AND THE TWO COUNTRIES STILL DISAGREE ON THE PROPER APPROACH TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND ON NUCLEAR EXPORT ISSUES. THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE FRENCH ARE SOUNDING OUT THE U.S. ON CREATION OF AN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. PRAVDA ANALYZES THE PROSPECTS FOR U.S. PRESIDENTIAL CONDIDATES, POINTING OUT THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS WON THE LAST TWO PRIMARIES, AND ALTHOUGH REAGAN IS AHEAD IN OFFICIAL DELEGATES, THE PRESIDENT EXPECTS SUPPORT FROM STILL UNCOMMITTED DELEGATES. CARTER "REMAINS" THE LEADING DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATE, SAYS PRAVDA. THE REPORT GIVES ACCURATE DELEGATE TOTALS FOR THE MAIN CONTENDERS. ANOTHER ARTICLE IN PRAVDA SAYS THE SENATE HAS FOUND THAT THE U.S. IS "ENTANGLED IN A NET" OF "INTERNAL ESPIONAGE" WHICH INVOLVES SURVEILLANCE OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS, ALL WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS THAT 48 WEST POINT CADETS ARE INVOLVED IN CHEATING AND THIEVERY.
THE SAME PAPER ALSO BREIFLY NOTES THE PRESENCE IN THE SOVIET SOVIET UNION MAY 9-20 OF A DELEGATION FROM THE U.S. ARMY MILITARY HISTORY SERVICE, AND DESCRIBED ITS ITINERARY, NOTING THAT THE DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.

3. COMMUNIST AFFAIRS. PRAVDA CONTINUES HEAVY REPORTING ON THE SED CONGRESS IN BERLIN, SUMMARIZING BRIEFLY REMARKS MADE BY GIEREK, HUSAK, KADAR, AND OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATIONS.
ONLY KADAR IS REPORTED AS HAVING SPECIFICALLY TOUCHED ON PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM, ECHOING SUSLOV'S LINK OF P.I. TO THE ECPC.
ZHIVKOV, INTERESTINGLY, REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE BULGARIAN PARTY LEARS "FROM ITS OWN EXPERIENCE, AND FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER PARTIES AS WELL" -- A RANK ORDERING THAT CANNOT HAVE PLEASED THE CPSU.

4. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA REPORTS THAT A GROUP OF U.S. SENATORS
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INCLUDING SENATORS HASKELL AND PERCY RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ISRAEL WITH THE CONCLUSION THAT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OCCUPIED AREAS IS A NECESSARY PRECONDITION FOR PEACE. THE SENATORS POINT OUT, HOWEVER (SAYS PRAVDA), THAT ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION OF MILITARIZED SETTLEMENTS IN THESE AREAS SHOWS THAT WITHDRAWAL IS NOT IN ISRAELI PLANS. THE SENATORS ALLEGEDLY ALSO CONCLUDED THAT THE U.S. POLICY OF PARTIAL STEPS "HAS NOT PROVEN JUSTIFIED". PRAVDA ADDS THE COMMENT THAT OBSERVERS IN WASHINGTON ARE TURNING THEIR ATTENTION TO THE ISRAELI REFUSAL, AIDED BY "CERTAIN CIRCLES" IN THE U.S., TO ALLOW U.N. INSPECTION OF THE WEST BANK.

5. BULGARIA. IZVESTIYA ANNOUNCED THE ARRIVAL OF BULGARIAN FONMIN MLADENOV ON MAY 20. NO REASON IS GIVEN FOR THE VISIT, WHICH, THE PAPER EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE, WILL SERVE THE

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"FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP"
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

5. MALI. SOVIET HEAD OF STATE PODGORNY RECEIVED HIS MALIAN
COUNTERPART MUSSU TRAORE ON MAY 20 DURING TRAORE'S TRANSIT STOP
N MOSCOW ENROUTE HOME FROM NORTH KOREA. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA'S
ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING, THE TWO SIDES DISCUSSED BILATERAL
RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. THE TWO REPORTEDLY SHARED
"IDENTICAL POINTS OF VIEW ON THE MAJORITY OF QUESTIONS DISCUSSED"
AND ENDORSED "NEW EFFORTS" TO DEVELOP FRIENDLY RELATIONS.
AMONG THOSE TAKING PART FROM THE SOVIET SIDE WERE FOREIGN AID CHIEF
SKACHKOV, SUGGESTING THAT SOVIET AID MAY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED.
THE SOVIETS GAVE A LUNCH AND THE MALIAN GUESTS LEFT LATER
IN THE DAY.

7. VIETNAM. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPLAYS LONG EXCERPTS OF AN
ARTICLE IN NAN DAN AND QWAN DOI NAN DAN BYGENERAL VO NGUYAN GIAP
MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE "COMPLETE LIBERATION OF SOUTH
VIETNAM." THE ARTICLE, HEADLINED "TO STRENTHEN THE DEFENSE OF
THE FATHERLAND," SPEAKS OF THE "NEW PAGE IN HISTORY" OPENED
BY THE DEFEAT OF "U.S. AGRESSORS." FOR VIETNAM THIS MEANS THE
BEGINNING OF A "NEW ERA -- AN ERA OF INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM AND
SOCIALISM FOR UNITED VIETNAM", SAYS GIAP. THE PEOPLE WANT
PEACE, BUT THEY MUST NOT RELAX THEIR GUARD, HE CONTINUES, BECAUSE
"IMPERIALISM" STILL EXISTS. IT IS NECESSARY TO DEFEND THE
COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY, GIAP SAYS, SPELLING OUT
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THAT THIS EMANS THE LAND, AIR "AND TERRITORIAL WATERS, BEGINNING
WITH THE BORDER AREAS AND ENDING WITH THE OFFSHORE ISLANDS
AND THE CONTINENTAL SHELF." WHILE BUILDING THE "SOCIALIST"
ECONOMY, IT IS NECESSARY TO KEEP A STRONG DEFENSE, HE
ARGUES, AND PAYS APPROPRIATE THANKS TO THE "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES
FOR THEIR AID AND SUPPORT. COMMENT: THE ARTICLE HAS NOT BEEN
PREVIOUSLY REPRINTED IN THE SOVIET PRESS, AND THERE IS NO
INDICATION OF HOW MUCH IS LEFT OUT. BUT THE SOVIETS ARE
CERTAIN TO BE PLEASED WITH THE POINTED REFERENCES TO DEFENDING
THE OFFSHORE ISLANDS. END COMMENT.

8. CHINA. PRAVDA REPLAYS AN AFP REPORT FROM PEKING THAT SEVEN
PLA COMMANDERS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL HAVE BEEN NAMED TO
NEW COMMANDS. THIS MOVE FOLLOWS THE REMOVAL OF TENG HSIAN-PING,
"WHO HAD FOLLOWERS WITHIN THE MILITARY", SAYS THE TASS ARTICLE.
THESE CHANGES OCCUR AFTER REPORTS OF PROBLEMS IN PRODUCTION AND
TRANSPORTATION IN SEVERAL PROVINCES, WHICH DEMONSTRATE "WORKER
DISSATISFACTION WITH MAOIST POLICIES," SAYS TASS, AND TROOPS
HAVE HAD TO BE CALLED IN TO PUT DOWN THE WORKERS. STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW08131
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760199-0280
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760528/aaaaayaq.tel
Line Count: 220
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MAY 21 -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA COMMENTS ON THE B-1, ALLEGING
TAGS: PFOR, CH, GC, UR, US, VN, XF, BU, ML
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006